

1938-39

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Collection No. 51/38-39

CK-15-38-

P. 26

Sh. No. 48-49-50-53.

Subject - Reports relating to the
Ryots Conferences held in some
of the districts

CONFIDENTIAL.

Collection No. 51 of 38-39

Year 194³⁸—194³⁹

General and Revenue
Secretariat.
Confidential Branch.

G. B. 15-38-48,49,50,51

B. Nov. 38.
✓

SUBJECT

Reports relating to the
Ryoto Conference held in
some of the districts.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES.

LATER REFERENCES.

CB 843

Serial
No.

The Deputy Commissioner, Kolar Dist suggests that in view of the objectionable nature of the speech delivered by Mr T. Siddalingiah on 13.10.1938 at Siddalahatta, the person may be sent for and warned against making such sedition speeches in future. Mr. Siddalingiah is the President of the Mysore State Congress.

Reference is invited to the Dewan's instructions at flag "g" in connection with certain objectionable speeches delivered by Mr. Siddalingiah. Subd for orders if any action need be taken on the Deputy Commissioner's suggestion.

"g"

VS.
10/11

No further action is perhaps necessary at present on this.

CPB
10/11

Yes
No action is necessary just now

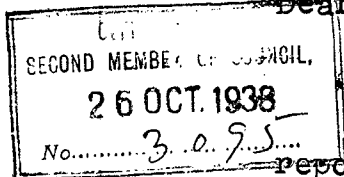
11
10/11

CB



Dated 21st October 1938

General T.C. 94/38-39 Enc: One report.



Dear Sir,

I am sending herewith a copy of S.B.

report No.45/38-39 dated the 18th October 1938, received from the District Superintendent of Police, French-Rocks, regarding the speeches delivered by Congressmen in Shandy Maidan at Seringapatam on 18-10-1938, for the information of Government.

For perusal.

Yours sincerely,

Deewan
2nd member

MS
25/10

M. S. Lallu
24/10

To

MS

25-10-38

26/10/38

send

Rajasevaprakashta

B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,

Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore
B A N G A L O R E.

D.C. Mas...

P. Y. S...

Y. Ramchandra...

a warning... ask them to refrain from making such speeches

in future, or you will be obliged to take

action against them

MS
27/10
perhaps will let him write
for further...
in which... this
affair.

Draft to D.C. put up

MS
21/10/38

Deewan's instns

This may be kept by for
some time as the local Congress
leaders have undertaken to
control their oratorical members.

MS
29/10

Speeches delivered by Congressmen in Shandy Maidan at Seringapatam on 18-10-38.

Congress President Mr. T. Siddalingiah, Mr. Vishakantiah and 2 others came from Bangalore side in MYS Car No.5346 at about --- 10-10 A.M. and they were received by Messrs. Bandigowda, Bank - Subbanna, Chamiah of Baburayanakoppal, Y.C. Mariappa, Natesa Mudaliar of French-Rocks and some citizens of Seringapatam. Mr. Siddalingiah expressed that he had received a letter from Mr. T. Mariappa to meet at Seringapatam this day at 10 A.M. sharp. The party waited till 11-30 A.M. for the arrival of Congress leaders from Mysore and then they started speeches. The meeting consisted of about 150 to 175 men. Mr. Bandigowda stated addressing the audience that the meeting ought to have begun at 10 A.M., that the Congress leaders Messrs. T. Mariappa, Rangaramiah and others did not arrive in time, that it is not right to wait for them, that Mr. B. Chamiah is elected as President for this day's function. Mr. B. Chamiah introducing Mr. T. Siddalingiah, expressed that he is a learned man etc., advised the public to hear his advice.

Mr. T. Siddalingiah then spoke as follows:-

"All of you had gone to Shivapura Convention. In ancient days, people used to travel in ships without drivers and Navigators, but only with the help of the wind. People also had their own ways. After the Congress movement started people learnt discipline. The present Government is not giving any facilities. The outsiders^{who} visit our State in Government cars, and reside in Lalitha Mahal, eat well, drink well and flatter our Government as a Model State. They will never speak ill of our State. This is not a responsible Government but an irresponsible one. Ryots have no food, no education, no clothes, no medical aid, but expenses are great. We request the Government to help the poor. Mysore is as small as a size of match box when the Japan is a great Kingdom. Our Minister gets thousands of rupees whereas the pay of the Minister of Japan is only Rs.500/-. Our Minister spends money in widening the roads, illuminating the Chamundi Hills and opening circles. Why all these

stated that the Ramachandra Rao will speak next.

Mr. Thagadur Ramachandra Rao spoke as follows:-

"My friend has already informed everything. How we worked in Sivapura Convention is known to everybody. Many countries have different Governments. The officer do not enquire the difficulties of the ryot. An Amildar recovers kandayam like Pathans. They go to villages and collect kandayam (రాష్ట్రం రీతయందు) by distraining their food, bullocks, plough and hay stocks. "స్థానిక వానశకార విధి ప్రాంతీయర భారము, యాదరింక కిరుకుళు యంబానికుకై"

Voters say that elected members do not help them but elected members give their advice, the ministers reject. "మూడు పద ముదముకై కళు ఏను ముదముకై - ఈ మూడు పదంబులలో ఈ ప్రకారం"

Even the vakils have joined the Congress as they could not do justice. The Police and the Magistrates are afraid now because all Maidan belong to us. Sections 39, 144 and 124 had been applied by the Magistrates. We had been sent to jail and again released. We do not want the Ministry of 3 persons. Everyone should become member subscribing as 4/-. We have no faith in the Government. If we want responsible Government we must fight for it and for which we should all be ready. Even in Assembly there were two parties., viz., Congress party and Independent Party. But all united in the end."

Mr. Natesha Mudaliar of F-Rocks spoke as follows:- "The present Government should be changed. The Dewan has got 5 years extension, whereas a Municipal President has one year. We would be pleased if the Dewan were given a notice to quit his service after 11 months and 29 days. Let the Police report like this. Advised the public to enlist themselves as members by paying as 4/- each.

11-35 A.M. Mr. Vishakanta Rao sang a lavani by beating a drum.

11-40 A.M. Mr. Chamiah who presided at the meeting spoke as follows:-

"Mr. Siddalingiah and Ramachandra Rao have spoken now. We -- should all help our country and become member by subscribing members".

Messrs. Bank Subbanna and A.G. Bandigowda garlanded Messrs. T. Siddalingiah, M.N. Jois and T. Ramachandra Rao. They left for Areker at 12-10.

Sd/- Y.S. Manjiah,
S.I. 18/10.

S.B.45/38-39

Copy submitted to the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District, Mysore, for information.

18-10-38.

Sd/- A.S. Khaleel,
District Superintendent of Police,
French-Rocks.

" C O P Y "



istrict Magistrate,
Mysore District.

CONFIDENTIAL.

SECOND MEMBER	29 OCT. 1938
No. 3257	

For perusal,

Dear Sir,

2896

2nd member

me

28/10

28-10-38

I am sending herewith, a copy of the report received from the District Superintendent of Police, Shimoga regarding the Ryots' Conference held at Shiralkoppa on the 24th instant.

• H.C. may be asked to give a warning to the Seshadri to refrain from making such remarks again. He must show no letter for Govt. written to him.

Rajasevaprakashta

B.T. Kesavaiengar, Esq., B.A.,

Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Mysore,
BANGALORE.

Reference is invited to

the Dewan's instructions at flag "g" in connection with certain objectionable speeches delivered by Messrs J. Siddalingiah and Jagann Ramachandrarao. It is for orders if this may also be kept by for some time.

however also Draft letter to Mr. Seshadri is put up for Consider if deemed necessary

VS.

31/10/38

Letter to Mr. Seshadri attached

MS
111

Copy B

Submitted

A Ryots Conference was held yesterday at Shiralkoppa under the auspices of the local Congress Committee; Mr. H. Siddiah, Advocate of Shimoga presiding. Handbills were circulated freely and the meeting was announced to commence at 5 p.m. but the meeting actually commenced at 10 p.m. and closed at 12 a.m. In the morning and evening a batch of volunteers marched through the streets of the Town crying national slogans such as "Boycott British Rule", "Up up National Flag", "Down Down Union Jack", "Inquilab, Zindabad" etc.

Mr. H. Siddiah, his son a small boy, and Marisamy Hiremuth were seated in a chariot and taken in procession round the Town in the night.

Soon after the procession the meeting commenced at 10 p.m. with the singing of national songs. The gathering may be estimated at about 600.

An address was presented to Mr. H. Siddiah and was read by Mr. Sangappa, Vice-president of Municipality, Shiralkoppa on behalf of the Reception Committee. He spoke of the qualities of the head and heart of Mr. Siddiah and said that the name of Mr. Siddiah had become a household word in Shimoga District on account of the self-sacrifice he has done in the cause of his people. In the course of the address it was said that the Government did not pay heed to the representations made on behalf of the ryots and this Conference of the Ryots was convened to ventilate their grievances and record the same in the form of a resolution.

Then messages were received from Messrs. Subash Chandra Bose, President of the All-India Congress Committee, Deshpande Gangadhar Rao, President of the Karnataka Congress Committee, K. Chandalarya Reddy, Secretary Mysore State Congress, L. S. Raju,

- 2 -

L.S.Raju of Bangalore, S.Venkatappa and Veeranna Gowda, M.L.Cs. K.T.Bhasyam Iyengar, Ramachar of Kolar, D.H.Chandrasekhariah of Chitaldrugl, D.S.Mallappa of Tumkur, Gundappa Gowda of Hassan, K.T.Sathyanarayana Setty of Birur and Sowcar Channiah, wishing the function success and advising the ryots to discipline and non-violence to achieve their objectives.

Mr.H.Siddiah next delivered his speech and said that he owed a deep debt of gratitude for the rousing and warm reception given to him and found it a problem to repay the same. The very fact that such a large concourse of people had gathered on such an important day as Dipavali festival was self-evidentia-ry of the chronic poverty of the people who had come there to pour out their grievances. He wished that the Government would be moved by this demonstration which meant that the ryots could not afford to enjoy the festival. Next he explained how it was not possible to achieve anything as member of the Peoples' Party and hence the merging of the latter organisation in the Congress. He said this to impress on the audience the necessity for a single organisation in the State to voice forth the grievances of the ryots and obtain redress in the form of achieving Responsible Government.

Next he criticised the Budget of the Government and informed the ryots that the income of the State from all sources was 380 lakhs and the expenditure is as follows:- 26 lakhs is set apart to H.H. the Maharaja, 3 to 4 lakhs to the Palace Department, 35 to 40 lakhs of Rs. in the form of subsidy to the British and for the maintainance of the Army, 70 to 80 lakhs for clearing the interest on State Debts and in providing depreciation Fund. The salaries and allowance of the Government is up to a crore and a half. Hence 70 to 80 lakhs is returned to the Ryots. The members elected from them had no power to

discuss these problems and even if they do, *ಅದರ ವಿಷಯವನ್ನು*
ಅಧ್ಯಯನ ಮಾಡುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಅದು ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಕೆಲಸವಲ್ಲ.
ಅದರ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಯಾರೂ ಕಳುಹಿಸುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.
Lot of money is wasted on C.I.D. Staff who watch the movements and doings just as they do in the case of dacoits and robbers. The Government depend on the reports of these reports which are

may save money by abolishing the schools in villages.

Next he explained its that would be derived by joining the Congress. The property of the ryots consists of his cattle and few acres of lands. Even the cattle cannot be grazed freely on account of the imposition of Hullubanni tax which is nearly a crore and 30 lakhs of rupees every year. The Congress government in British provinces abolished the hullubanni tax within a month of their assuming office. People who had already ^{paid} the tax got refund and more interesting is the fact that Revenue Inspectors went from house to house and disbursed the amount. Our taluk officers have become proverbial and one has to go there several times to claim their dues. Secondly great havoc is played by tigers and other wild animals and a Committee appointed to enquire into the matter has reported that 10000 cattle die every year by becoming the food of these animals and 6000 of them belong to Shimoga District. The Games Preservation Act prohibits free shooting of these wild animals and they have been tended to create game and hunting for the foreign guests.
 From June last Government have commenced to blow their trumpet through the Mysore Information Bulletin wherein they have stated that more than a crore of rupees is spent on the cities of Mysore, Bangalore and K.G.F. consisting of only 4 lakhs of people for water supply. Even now Rs. 75000 is provided for these towns, how much have they spent on the rest of the cities.

Sir.M.Visweswaraiah is famous throughout India and in his 80th year he is hale and hearty. He had many plans on hand. It is he who introduced a legislation for water supply and the present Dewan abolished in 1927. If it is urged for increase more no. of Schools the reply is approach the District Board. A trick is adopted just to abolish the schools.

There are 23 thousand tanks in your State and 16000 of them are useless still tax is collected on wetlands. For repairs of these tanks 2 and 3 crores of rupees is required and t

misrepresented and exaggerated. He does not blame these reporters because they are ill-paid and cannot afford to discharge their duties efficiently and faithfully. It is such for such low paid officials as constables, forest Guards and school masters that he holds brief. The constables get increments once in 7 years whereas the higher officers jump from 500 to 600, 800 to 1200, 1500, 2000 and 5000. With this disproportionate remuneration how can the Government run on efficient lines? Even ryots who are the backbone of the State do not derive 1/20 th ^{en} from the tax they pay to the ~~state~~ Government. The Government officers in Taluk Conferences and District Conferences plead for the creation of educational facilities in the villages but the same officers recommend for the abolition of the existing schools in villages. The Dewan's speech in the Assembly and outside that lakhs of rupees are spent on the ryots with the desire of increasing their prosperity etc. ^{ಮಾನ್ಯರವರ ಮಾತಿನಂತೆ ರೈತರ ಸ್ಥಿತಿಗತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸುಧಾರಿಸುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಅವರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣವನ್ನು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸುವುದು ಇವುಗಳೇ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಉದ್ದೇಶಗಳು.}

The Government have tried their utmost to make the sons of the ryots illiterate (Claps). ^{ರೈತರ ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಅಕ್ಷರಗೊಳಿಸುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಸರ್ಕಾರವು ಪ್ರಯತ್ನಮಾಡಿದೆ.}

The percentage of literacy in Travancore, Cochin and Baroda are about 34%, 29% and 21% respectively ~~and~~ but ~~the~~ under the guidance of the Dewan in our State, "I am ashamed to tell that it is only 9%". Elementary education is neglected and huge sums are wasted on High School and University education. The Government have under contemplation the abolition of 128 Primary Schools in Shimoga District and 48 in Kadur District. This measure is adopted to save money and spend on foreign guests to earn their encomiums. The guests are taken to spots of beautiful natural scenery and lavishly fed. ^{ಮಾನ್ಯರವರ ಮಾತಿನಂತೆ ರೈತರ ಶಿಕ್ಷಣವನ್ನು ಹೆಚ್ಚಿಸುವುದು ಇವುಗಳೇ ಮುಖ್ಯ ಉದ್ದೇಶಗಳು.}

If he is asked to put an end to these, his fingers are pointed to the Central Jail. The ryots cannot afford to prepare costly dishes enjoyed by the higher officers on every day even on festival days. Every year foreign guests are brought to Mysore and the budget amount provided for their stay here has been increasing from 40,000 ^{to 45,000 and 60,000} ~~to 45,000 and 60,000~~ ^{per year.}

and the Government have clearly admitted that they cannot get a money for this. So he would ask them to ^{cess} ~~raise~~ collecting tax lands. In 1932, 4 M.T. Dispensaries were abolished in Malnad. With the greatest difficulty the dispensary at Jade was kept on. Besides Rs.5000/- salary the Dewan claims Rs.500/- T.A., a car, petrol charges, establishment charges of ~~him~~ his Bungalow money in the up keep of the buildings. The Congress Ministers in Bf Provinces visit interior villages and do not claim T.A. like our Officers who pay flying visits to Bhadravathi, Jog and such other interesting and motorable places with their wives and children. Still the T.A. of the Congress Ministers does not exceed Rs.120, per month but the average T.A. of the Councillors and the Dewan in our State is Rs.400/- per month. The T.A. of the Private Secretary of the Ministers of Madras is only Rs.40/- per month.

[Handwritten musical notation on four staves]

The Dewan says that he is born and bred up in Bangalore and that he would die there alone. "Let him die wherever he likes - it is immaterial". Still he goes to Nilgiris. The Nizam of Hyderabad ranks third amongst the world's richest magnates and his son who is born with a silver spoon, in his moth spends his summer in Bangalore.

In Shiralkoppa and Sorab Taluks crops have entirely failed, in some villages for lack of rains and other seasonal conditions. Still no remission is granted to these Ryots. In Madras 3/4th portion of rupees is set apart in the name of Famine Relief Fund to give entire relief to the parts afflicted with famine. ~~Mark~~
sent

Last month an Officer drawing Rs.1400 visited Tirthahalli when Mr. Puttananjappa and Siddiah had been on propaganda work. When Meguravalli and Agumbo some ryots were waiting to meet him with fruits and flowers. The gentleman did not even had the courtesy to stop his car and enquire whether it is not known whether it was late for tea or not.

Journal Editor.

not seen Rs.1400 in a lumpsum and ... 1400/-

Is it not shameful on the part of the Government to say

that they have given 7325 rupees as loan to 19 persons for encour-
ging smaller industries? In United Provinces ~~there is~~ 1 crore
of rupees have/ been set apart for encouraging smaller industries. There
are 11000 panchayats in the State and 32 lakhs of rupees is kept
in Government Treasury as Deposit. Hitherto about Rs.80,000
was earned as interest on this amount and the Government have
ceased paying interest. They do not return back the money too,
and the interest earned on it is ill-utilized. The Presidents
of the Panchayats are nominated among those that are under the
control of the Amildar. There are 104 Municipalities in the
State and only 4 of them have got unofficial presidents. In
Gwalior State crops failed. The Maharaja there is very young
and still he remitted all the tax.

People who go to Mysore to see Dasara have to stand in rain and
sun. There is no choultry to lay their heads. Even such a
small State as Durandhara has built a choultry costing 1 lakh
of rupees for the use of the ryots.

From 1881 to 1926 i.e. nearly 45 years, 3 to 4 Dewans came and
went. There was not a single occasion during that period on
which fire was opened. But from 1926 to 1938 fire was opened
13 times.

When the I Member of Council visited Anjampur sugges-
ryots to grow more paddy to stop the importation of rice
to 1 crore of rupees into the State. How is it possible.
tax is so heavy? He finally quoted the speech of Sarat Ch
Bose to the ... that if the results of the Reforms Comm
not prove ... the Congress organization

in strength and the Minister will be replaced by another. /

Next he appealed to the ryots to join Congress, wear Khaddar, to attain responsible government sooner.

Next Mr. Sivalingappa of Sagar, an Advocate, moved two resolutions urging for ~~the~~ complete responsible Government under the aegis of H.H. the Maharaja and appealed to the members ~~of~~ of the Reforms Committee to recommend Responsible Government; they were unanimously passed.

He said that the Government were afraid of the ryots because they are the backbone of the country and hence C.I.D. staff had been deputed to report the proceedings. The Maharaja must only be a titular head under the Responsible Government. *No 3, 2, 1, 2, 3, 2*

Mr. Marisamy Hiremutt moved the following resolutions: expressed gratification at the release of the political prisoners in Travancore and appealed to the authorities there to grant Responsible Government to the people there. He condemned the system of deputing C.I.D. reporters to record the proceedings of political meetings. He informed the gathering of the fact that the Inspector of Police ^{Shikarpur} had worn a Khaddar cap and ~~amazed~~ surprised to observe that one Shivaji Gowda, Patel of Kodihalli was threatened of suspension ^{for taking part} in Congress activities. There are instances of people courting imprisonment for wearing khaddar cap. Now I would ask the Government to arrest the Police Inspector? Next he felt proud in saying that they would tell more if the Dewan should be present at ~~attend~~ the meeting. He also taunted those that earn medals and shawls by ~~con~~ carrying the favour of the Government. This remark seems to have touched Mr. Mallikarjunappa Gowda of Ennakoppa, Anvatti Range and said that he did not earn by pleasing Government officers. On the other hand he obtained the same by rendering meritorious service. He wanted responsible Government under the aegis/ of H.H. the Maharaja.

Mr. Girmaji Rao read the following resolutions which were passed at the meeting. : 1) Appealed for the appointment of a Committee to go into the matter of reducing the revenue tax on the lands depending for water on the Anjanapur Project. 2) This conference deplores the neglect of the Government to create water facilities in the bordering villages. 3) appeals to the Government to abolish the Hullubarni tax and to permit free cutting of wood in the jungles. 4) Urges the Government to appoint the Chairman to the Village Panchayats by election. 5) Appeals to the Government to increase the number of primary schools in the villages and establish a Land Mortgage Bank in Shikaripur Taluk.

Mr. Hanumantha Reddi of Mallapur read two resolutions which were passed: 1) This Conference appeals to the Government to repair the Mallapur Channel 2) Appeals for full remission of land revenue in the parts where crops have completely failed.

Next a resolution was passed sympathising with the people of Hyderabad in their fight for establishing responsible Government.

Mr. Havanna Gowda of Rattehalli, Ranibennur performed a "Harikarthana" and advised the people to wear khaddar and explained the divine significance attached to it.

The meeting terminated at about 2 a.m. with the singing of "Vande Mataram" and "Jais" to Mr. Siddiah and other congress leaders.

Dated 25th October 1938.

Sd/- C. Seshadri Sarma,
Stenographer,
District Police Office,
Shimoga.

Copy"

1r


Deputy Commissioner

&
District Magistrate, Shimoga Dt.

1448/ CB 15-38-50 073/11/34

Strictly Confidential.

Dear Mr. Seshadri

With reference to your D.O. letter No. C.C.11/38-39 dated the 27th Octr.38, forwarding a copy of the report received from the Dist. Supdt. of Police, Shimoga, regarding a Ryots' Conference held at Shiralakoppa on 24th Octr.38 I am desired to state that the speech of Mr.H. Siddiya, as reported, contains matter of a highly objectionable nature. I am to request you to give him a warning to refrain from making such seditious speeches in future.

This communication from Govt. need not be shown to him, and the action taken should be as if from you.

Yours sincerely,

M.S.
2/11

M. Seshadri, Esqr., M.A.,
Deputy Commr., Shimoga Dist.

3rd November 1938

1448
C.C. 11/38-39

Strictly Confidential.

Dear Mr. Seshadri

With reference to your D. O. letter No.C.C.11/38-39 dated the 27th October 1938, forwarding a copy of the report received from the District Superintendent of Police, Shimoga, regarding a Ryots' Conference held at Shiralakoppa on 24th October 1938, I am desired to state that the speech of Mr. H. Siddiya, as reported, contains matter of a highly objectionable nature. I am to request you to give him a warning to refrain from making such seditious speeches in future.

This communication from Government need not be shown to him, and the action taken should be as if from you.

Y. S.
ms

M. Seshadri, Esqr., M.A.,
Deputy Commissioner, Shimoga District.

D.O. 290/T.C. One one.
38-39

Confidential.

Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Kolar District.
Dated Kolar, the 1st November 1938.

3153

Dear Sir,

In continuation of my confidential D.O. letter No: T.C.274/38-39 dated 23rd October 1938, I write to state that I sent for Nanjunda Setti of Lakkur who had given the speech adverted to, in Kudianur village and warned him against making objectionable speeches of the sort made by him on the 20th September 1938. Nanjunda Setti is an young man of about 19 years of age with more enthusiasm than discretion. When I told him that his reference to His Highness's privy purse was --- seditious he was taken aback and told me that he merely repeated what Mr. Siddalingiah has been saying in several of his lectures. He promised that he will not make such references in future.

Mr. Siddalingiah has made a speech in Sidlaghatta on the 13th October 1938, in which a similar reference to His Highness's privy purse occurs. The Public Prosecutor who was consulted by the District Superintendent of Police in the -- matter is of opinion that the speech is seditious and will come within the purview of Sec.124 - A. I.P.C. I am of opinion that to stop such references one or two of the so-called -- leaders must be dealt with severely. I enclose a copy of the English rendering of the speech delivered by Mr. Siddalingiah on 13th October 1938 at Sidlaghatta. If however, it is the policy of Government not to precipitate matters at this juncture, I am of opinion that he may kindly be sent for and -- warned against making such seditious speeches. The gentleman is not a resident of this District, otherwise I would have done this before now.

This will be kept in view.

For perusal

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

To *MS* 4/11/38

MS 5/11

MS 5-11-38
Rajasevaprakashta
B. T. KESAVAIENGAR, ESQ., B.A.,
Chief Secretary to Government of Mysore,
Bangalore.

Extract from the Proceedings of the Congress meeting held on the evening of 13th October 1938 at Sidlaghatta Town.

.....

Mr. T. Siddalingiah spoke as follows:-

What we are asking you to-day is your vote. The ways of the present Government are not satisfactory. We are paying our Kandayam and the Government spends that money on these cement tree-guards. We do not give even a pie to our children and we save every pie we come across and we give this to the Government. And what does this Government do? The Government spends all this money for beautifying the towns.

See the Harijan Colony. Every one of them pays Rs.0/8/0, as house kandayam every month and what is it the Government have done for them? I know that every one of these tree guards costs nearly Rs.15/- and the Government keeps nearly 40 such tree guards in this Town to earn the good name of the Europeans.

The Kandayam we pay to the Government must be spent in useful ways. In the school, for instance, the teachers are paid Rs.15/- each, per month. How can they give education to the children, when they themselves have not got the bare necessities of life. Even the Police Constable gets a pay of Rs.8/- or 10/4. The Government are spending the money of the poor in unjustifiable ways.

The Government is not anxious to create facilities for the poor, who have no hospitals and schools. They have money to erect pendals and beautify the towns. When the Government Officials visit other places, ~~they must~~ they must get their travelling allowance in addition to the large salaries they take at the end of every month. The present administration is only increasing our poverty.

I visited countries like America and China. In these countries, there is no difference between the King Emperor and a poor man. Every one of them eats good food and has fine clothes to wear. Contrast with it the state of affairs in Mysore. Look at the Woddars and Vokkaligars and contrast them with the Europeans. The Government Officers do not care for the poor. The Dewan takes a salary of Rs.5000/- and does he thereby relieve the miseries of the poor, who have neither food to eat nor clothes to wear. Similarly the other officials like the District Magistrate or the Chief Magistrate, who takes Rs.1000/- and these people have not done anything good for the people of their own communities.

Suppose one of the vokkaligar people is given a highly paid job, and does he thereby relieve the miseries of all the other vokkaligars.

The ways of the present Government are most undesirable and even mean. They frighten the people and ~~men~~ sap their wealth. Even the subordinates behave in a similar manner as the highly paid officials. Even they frighten people and take bribes. This is a deep-rooted disease.

Go to any office - to the Sub Registrar's Office, for instance. No person who goes there comes out without paying mamool. Similar is the case with other Departments, Revenue, P.W.D., and the Police. Everywhere, there is bribery. This should neither be the way nor the morality of the Government. Why should the low-paid official be given bribes? Let him be given a higher pay. Let him give up these bribes.

What we ~~are~~ asking for, is that the officers at the top may be paid lower salaries and the salaries of the subordinates may be increased correspondingly.

Why should there be any distinction between the rich and the poor? Why not both the classes of people, have equal opportunities for education and decent living?

Although the Government officials are paid high salaries, you find that at the time of their retirement, they will have entered into heavy debts. Everywhere, the kadayam is heavy. We ask the Government not to waste money on tree-guards and other beauties. Why should there be 40 tree-guards and what do you find in every tree-guard. You find only ~~thorns~~ in it which are not beneficial for the poor.

I have not seen ~~down~~^{dome} lights in England. Every ~~down~~^{dome} costs Rs.20/-. I do not understand the use of these ~~downs~~^{domes}. The English people use powerful bulbs for their streets, but the intelligent people of Mysore want to lessen the strength of these bulbs.

The visit of a European will fetch a certificate for the Highness and the Dewan. Why not these experts (ಬೃಹತ್‌ಜ್ಞಾನಿಗಳು) get more enlightened in administrative matters? There is nobody to hear the miseries of the poor. We worship the Maharaja and the Government is our mother. The

Government should look after the welfare of the poor and their children. They can no more tolerate the pride and zabardast (ಜಬರ್ದಸ್ತ್). Let the Maharaja be presented with a picture of these poor and impoverished children. (ಇದು ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ ವಾಸ್ತವವೇ ಸರ್ವಜನ ಸಾಕ್ಷ್ಯಕ್ಕೆ ?).

They have absolutely no sympathy for the poor. If you ask them as to why they require such huge salaries, they would reply that they are educated people and therefore take large salaries. Have they not got the intelligence to understand that the poor people must be helped. The Government are actually kicking the poor.

His Highness takes Rs.7200/- per day as ~~xx~~ pay. Your Municipality does not get probably Rs.7200/- a year. The Maharaja gets 26 lakhs of rupees per year. Why should he get so much money? Is he poor? We are praying him not to take such a heavy amount, but to spend ^{that} ~~thats~~ money on the poor and their children. We ask them not to beautify hills and hillocks. Let the poor people be given enough food for their living and let the Maharaja take care of us as the British Emperor looks after his subjects.

If we ask for these comforts from the Government, the Police will char -sheet us. Let the Dewan advise the Maharaja properly.

ನಮಗೆ ಈ ಸುಖವೆಂದರೆ ಇಳು ಬೇಡ

The former Dewans. Viz.

Ananda Rao, Krishna Rao and others have brought misfortune to our land by taking huge salaries.

What we want is that everybody should be happy including the people. We have no food to eat, no medicine to take, when we are ill. We are bereft of all education. Even pigs cannot live in our houses.

In the year 1926, I was offered the appointment of an Assistant Commissioner, but I told the Government that I had enough food to eat and live and that I did not want the appointment.

There are to-day eleven lakhs of ~~Harig~~ Harijans in Mysore. They do not receive the treatment that is accorded even to dogs and cats. If one of them becomes an Assistant Commissioner, are the

miseries of other people in the community relieved? The Government are playing these tactics for the last so many years. They think that by raising one or two educated people of a particular community, to high positions, they would be able to quieten the rest of the members in the community.

Why should you not live in as decent a manner as the European, who is like the God himself. The present-day administration has no justice and is not being conducted on proper lines. The Government think that because the people are keeping quiet, there is contentment among them and they take fat salaries in the District Treasury and close their eyes with a sense of relief.

The English men who were formerly the monkeys squatting on trees now call us Indians as people of the jungle. ಇಂಥವರೂ ಮಾದರವಾಗಿ
ಆಳುತ್ತಿರುವುದರಿಂದ ನಮ್ಮನ್ನು ಕೂಡ ಬನವೆತ್ತುವರು

If we do not speak out our grievances and if we do not point out the bad points in the administration, the Government will continue to function in the same old ways. We must all tell the Government with a united voice that they must give a remission in the kadayam and thus lessen our ^{burden} ~~burden~~. We must also ask them not to waste money for beautifying the cities. We do not want the certificates and favours of outsiders and foreigners.

The key of the administration lies in the hands of the Dewan. He must go to your homes and enquire after your difficulties and hardships. He must be the real representative of the people.

Mahatma Gandhi has changed the entire colour of the administration in the British Provinces. Mr. C. Rajagopalachari has now accepted a moderate salary. He is the Prime Minister of Madras, a province, which is six times bigger than Mysore and takes only Rs. 500/- per month. The Dewan of Mysore must take a salary of Rs. 90/-. In Madras, the Minister has assured that he will increase the salaries of subordinate services, thereby putting an end to the evil of bribery. He has now given to the ryots a remission of 25% in Kadayam to the extent of seventy five lakhs of rupees.

The Government officials ~~know~~ of Mysore know how to take big salaries, but do not know their duty towards the poor. They have been encouraging the use of toddy. They intoxicate the poor and take away large sums of money.

Mahatma Gandhi has at one stroke given a death blow to these toddy shops.

Just as in the Madras Province, we want that the Mysore Government must change their ways and unless the ways of the Government are changed, there is no salvation for the country and this change can only be brought about by your vote. In former days, to go to the Assembly, was to go to the palace, but now the Assembly members should request for your votes and go not to the palaces, but to the jails. Times have been changing and everywhere, there is a sense of restlessness. The Congress is a united body and the Government are slowly yielding to them. Although the Government officials have changed their attitude towards us, we are not yet satisfied with the ways in which they are conducting themselves. The colour of the administration must be ~~change~~ changed!

Mr. Abdul Gaffar Khan also belongs to the Congress. In spite of Mr. Pattabhiraman's advice, he did not care to apply to the Congress for standing as a candidate, for the ensuing election. I now ask you not to vote for him, because, he has not been faithful to the Congress.

The Congress stands for sacrifice. The election ~~xxxxxx~~ ~~xxx~~ takes place the day after to-morrow, and decide on the spot, as to whom you ~~xx~~ should vote. I do not assure you, that Mr. Shetty will do wonders in the Assembly. There are more intelligent people than him who will bear the brunt of fighting with the Government. But he will give us the necessary support and backing.

The Congress is working in all the villages and if you vote for the Congress candidate, it will mean a victory for our organisation.

~~xx~~
Sd. Srinivasa Iyer,
Daffedar.

~~xx~~
Sd. C.S. Krishna Murthy,
Stenographer.

~~xx~~
V.R. Gaikwad,
Sub Inspector,
Midlghatta.

~~xx~~
"Copy"

~~EDMUNDO~~

D. O. No.

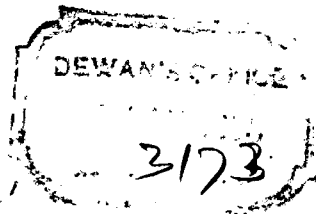
Mr. M. SESHADRI, M.A.,
Deputy Commissioner.

45858
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
SHIMOGA DISTRICT,

Shimoga, dated the 6th Nov. 1938.

629
9/11

Dear Mr. Keraengas,



I have your D.O. letter
of the 3rd instant. I sent for
Mr. H. Siddaiya yesterday evening
and gave him a warning. He
promised to be careful in making
speeches hereafter.

For perusal.

Dewan
1st Member } /

MVC
7.11.38

Yours sincerely

M. Seshadri

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8-11-38

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9/11